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Very pretty it is, and a pretty meal she cooked for a Brazilian lady, staying there, and myself.

The whole affair is attractive; she has lots of taste and some lovely things, including plentiful needlework skillfully done by herself. She is about to start on a new book, commissioned by George Weidenfeld. It will be concerned with famous house interiors in all countries.

Returned to London this evening.

August 5, 1962 - Sunday

Today is sunny, as was yesterday, temperature 67°. Off on another expedition, this time to the Berrys, at Oving House in Bucks, near Whitchurch, beyond Aylesbury.

They had spoken of this as a modest country house. Actually, it is a gem, with lovely facades, [redacted] commanding a view over the Vale of Aylesbury, [redacted] a dream of landscape. The rooms are well proportioned, with magnificent stucco work, both old and modern. I thought their decoration of it most happy; they are passionate though moderate, as to expense, collectors. There is much statuary in the garden, bought in England and Italy, a swimming pool with a charming bathing pavilion, extensive outbuildings, as well as a plantation of young trees. The house formerly belonged to Bill and Rosemary Elliot, who were so injudicious as to part with it, which now they regret.

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After lunch Pam took me sightseeing. First we visited Waddesdon Manor, bequeathed, with its contents, by the late James de Rothschild to the National Trust.

This house and collection were commenced about 1880 by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, of the Austrian branch of the family. He moved to England, where he married a cousin of the English branch. An unmarried sister, Alice, inherited

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Tel Aviv, from where he could not be extradited. There are many legal involvements, and great publicity attaching to this matter. The decision made was by the Prime Minister himself, who is said to be heartily sick of the whole affair. Our people in Washington thought they had devised a formula by which he might be switched to a Pan American plane. I lunched today with Lyons and Fitzgerald, of Pan American, at the American Club, and discussed various possibilities with them. Pan American has been entirely cooperative throughout, but we shall not yet be able to surmount the legal difficulties. I talked to the Home Secretary, Brooke, who is in the country, but found he and his associates unwilling to change their position so as to accept the new formula.

Dean Rusk said the authorities at home would prefer a long detention here, to his being sent back to Tel Aviv. I told Dean I thought the only way to accomplish this would be to have the President telephone directly to the Prime Minister, who would be here tonight for the purpose of giving a private dinner for the Eisenhowers.

This whole episode has caused embarrassment to all concerned. Why a man sentenced to life imprisonment for spying was ever allowed to escape from the United States defies satisfactory explanation to the ordinary man in the street. And again, why, when accompanied by a US Marshal, he could manage to slash his wrists on the El Al plane and have to be sent to a British hospital, is hard to rationalize. As far as the British are concerned, he entered this country without their permission. If they issue an order of deportation it would be a month or more before his case came to trial. The Israelis claim if he goes to the US on their airline the Government will be overthrown. We say if he goes back to Tel Aviv the furore at home would be most undesirable. So there we are--but we do not know where.

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and other notables were there. Ted Heath seemed moderately optimistic about the prospects for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference.

After I returned to the office, Bob Schaetzel called me from Washington to inquire whether I thought I could do anything with Robert Menzies of Australia to induce him to be less opposed to the UK joining the Common Market. I told him I would think this over. I expect to see Menzies for a short time tonight, at a reception given by the High Commissioner for Australia, and Lady Harrison.

I went to the reception given by the Australian High Commissioner. I did see Mr. Menzies, but since hundreds of people were there, had no opportunity for a private conversation with him. I sent Bob Schaetzel this telegram:

> "Many Commonwealth Primins and associates have already arrived London for conference opening Monday. Common Market affair will be taken up first and Heath hopes it will be finished by September 15th.
>
> I think Menzies is single most important person to be reckoned with. He has made no disturbing statements; on contrary has given considerable reason to believe he accepts fact that UK will have to make own decision after doing best to protect Commonwealth interests. I shall if possible see him before conference.
>
> From many authoritative sources I have heard comment that USG moderation in expressing views on UK application has been helpful and appreciated. It is hoped this will continue through Conference.
>
> I believe it would be great mistake for us to attempt to exercise any pressures on participants.
>
> Heath and other officials do not presently anticipate setback at this meeting. Their real difficulties are more likely to be internal later in the autumn, when the political parties come to grips with the problems involved."

I gave a cocktail party tonight for

Major General and Mrs. Melvin Krulewitch
Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Eaton
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Calhoun
Mrs. Eugene Meyer
Mr. and Mrs. Hughes Miller
Mr. Stephen Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Funkhouser
Henry Hunt
Al Wells

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